Upliftment of SCs, STs and OBCs

1930. SHRI PRAKANTA WARISA: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of schemes and programmes formulated by Government for the upliftment of scheduled castes, scheduled tribes, backward classes, minorities, widows, old-aged and other weaker sections of the society in different States of the country during the last five years;

(b) The details of amount allocated and spent on these schemes; and

(c) the present status of implementation of the said schemes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) to (c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Financial Assistance to NGOs in NER

1931. SHRI PRAKANTA WARISA: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are providing financial assistance under various schemes to NGOs functioning at present in different States of the country, particularly in the NER during the last three years and till date;

(b) if so, the full details thereof, NGO-wise; and

(c) the steps being taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) Yes, Sir

(b) List enclosed at Annexure *(See Appendix* 189, Annexure *No.* 54)

(c) The Grant-in-aid is released to the organizations whose applications are found to be in accordance and in compliance with norms of the schemes. Efforts are being taken to encourage and assist suitable voluntary organizations in the NER.

Development of Steel Production Network

†1932. SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.